

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed October 9, 2007. Claims 1, 2, and 10-13 were pending before submission of this paper. Claims 1, 2, 12 and 13 have been amended. Claims 21-52 are newly added. Claims 1, 2, 10-13 and 21-52 are currently pending. Support for all amended and new claims can be found in the specification, and no new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0002413 to *Marumori*. Without conceding the merits of the rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is overcome.

Claim 1, as amended, recites in part "a finalizing process circuit for executing a finalizing process for said optical recording medium, the finalizing process making the optical recording medium to be compatible with a read-only disc, wherein the finalizing process circuit is configured to execute the finalizing process for a predetermined time period; and a display for providing a first indication of the predetermined time period, wherein the first indication is provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated."

*Marumori* discloses executing a finishing processing after recording information to a recordable medium. A determination is made whether a power amount necessary for executing the finalizing processing can be supplied. When the necessary power amount can be supplied, the finalizing processing is executed. The finishing processing is executed when power is supplied by a power source that supplies a power amount that is not limited (e.g., a commercial alternating current power supply). In contrast, when the power source provides a limited power amount (e.g., a battery), the finishing processing is not always executed, i.e., the finishing processing is executed in accordance with the magnitude of the supplyable power amount. (See paragraphs [0027]-[0028]).

In contrast, the present invention as recited in claim 1 provides an indication of a predetermined time period on a display. The predetermined time period represents the amount of time required by the finalizing process circuit to execute the finalizing process. The indication is provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated. (See Figs. 8 and 9 and page 28, lines 16-30 of the specification).

In general, finalizing is a process that cannot be interrupted after it has begun. During the finalizing process no other operations may be performed. When the finalizing process is complete, no additional data may be added or recorded onto the recording medium. Thus, a user must carefully consider whether to initiate the finalizing process.

The present invention as recited in claim 1 provides important information for the user to consider before determining whether to execute the finalizing process. Specifically, the finalizing process time changes greatly depending on the recording capacity of the recording medium. For example, the finalizing process time may be 2 minutes or 10 minutes or more. Therefore, it is important for a user to know the finalizing process time, particularly if the user wishes to use the apparatus soon.

Neither *Marumori* nor any of the other cited references, alone or in combination, disclose all of the features recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, *Marumori* does not disclose "a finalizing process circuit for executing a finalizing process for said optical recording medium,... wherein the finalizing process circuit is configured to execute the finalizing process for a predetermined time period; and a display for providing a first indication of the predetermined time period, wherein the first indication is provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated." For at least this reason, claim 1 is allowable over the cited art, as are multiple dependent claims 10 and 11 which depend from claim 1.

Independent claims 2, 12 and 13 recite features that are similar to the features recited in amended claim 1. As discussed above with reference to claim 1, the cited art does not disclose these features. Thus, claims 2, 12 and 13 are also allowable over the cited art for at least the same reasons. Multiple dependent claims 10 and 11 are also dependent on claim 2 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as well as on their own merits.

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is respectfully requested.

New Claims

Claims 21-52 are newly added. Claims 21-32 are dependent on one of claims 1, 2 12 and 13 (directly or indirectly). As discussed above, claims 1, 2, 12 and 13 are allowable over the cited art. Thus, claims 21-32 are also allowable for at least the same reasons as well as on their own merits.

Claim 33 recites in part "a first detector circuit for detecting remaining capacity of said first electric power source;... a finalizing process circuit for executing a finalizing process for said optical recording medium...; and a display for providing a first indication of the remaining capacity of said first electric power source, the first indication being provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated."

The present invention as recited in claim 33 provides an indication of remaining battery life on a display. The remaining battery life represents the amount of time remaining before the battery cannot supply power. The indication is provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated. (See Figs. 8 and 9 and page 28, lines 16-30 of the specification).

The present invention as recited in claim 33 provides important information for the user to consider before determining whether to execute the finalizing process. Specifically, the remaining battery life may not be sufficient to complete execution of the finalizing process. Therefore, it is important for a user to know the remaining battery life, particularly if the user wishes to use the apparatus soon.

Neither *Marumori* nor any of the other cited references, alone or in combination, disclose all of the features recited in independent claim 33. Specifically, *Marumori* does not disclose "a first detector circuit for detecting remaining capacity of said first electric power source;... a finalizing process circuit for executing a finalizing process for said optical recording medium...; and a display for providing a first indication of the remaining capacity of said first electric power source, the first indication being provided on the display before the finalizing

process is initiated." For at least this reason, claim 33 is allowable over the cited art, as are claims 34-36 which depend from claim 33.

Independent claims 37, 41 and 43 recite features that are similar to the features recited in amended claim 33. As discussed above with reference to claim 33, the cited art does not teach these features. Thus, claims 37, 41 and 43 are also allowable for at least the same reasons as well as on their own merits.

Claims 38-40 are dependent on claim 37, claim 42 is dependent on claim 41, and claim 44 is dependent on claim 43. As discussed above, claims 37, 41 and 43 are allowable. Thus, claims 38-40, 42 and 44 are also allowable for at least the same reasons as well as on their own merits.

Claim 45 recites in part "a first detector circuit for detecting remaining capacity of said first electric power source;... a finalizing process circuit for executing a finalizing process for said optical recording medium...; and a display for providing an indication of an amount of recordable space available on the optical recording medium, the indication being provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated."

The present invention as recited in claim 45 provides an indication of remaining disc capacity. The remaining disc capacity represents the amount of recordable space available on the recording medium. The indication is provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated. (See Fig. 11 and page 31, lines 8-23 of the specification).

The present invention as recited in claim 45 provides important information for the user to consider before determining whether to execute the finalizing process. Specifically, the remaining disc capacity may be insufficient to complete execution of the finalizing process. Alternatively, the remaining disc capacity may be so large that disc space is wasted. Therefore, it is important for a user to know the remaining disc capacity.

Neither *Marumori* nor any of the other cited references, alone or in combination, disclose all of the features recited in independent claim 45. Specifically, *Marumori* does not disclose "a first detector circuit for detecting remaining capacity of said first electric power source;... a finalizing process circuit for executing a finalizing process for said optical recording

medium...; and a display for providing an indication of an amount of recordable space available on the optical recording medium, the indication being provided on the display before the finalizing process is initiated." For at least this reason, claim 45 is allowable over the cited art, as are claims 46 and 47 which depend from claim 45.

Independent claims 48, 51 and 52 recite features that are similar to the features recited in amended claim 45. As discussed above with reference to claim 45, the cited art does not teach these features. Thus, claims 48, 51 and 52 are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 45 as well as on their own merits.

Claims 49 and 50 are dependent on claim 48. As discussed above, claim 48 is allowable. Thus, claims 49 and 50 are also allowable for at least the same reasons as well as on their own merits.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 206-467-9600.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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